LITERARY NEWS, VIEWS AND CRITICISM

ENGLISH WRITERS WHO HAVE BEEN 'DISCOVERED'

Half a Dozen of Them Were Finds for American Publishers in the Past Year.

CONRAD. MERRICK, BENNETT

All Had Been at It for Years, of Course Continental Writers Interest Is But Little as a Rule.

· A characteristic of this past year's pubfishing," remarked an officer of one of the leading firms, "is the number of socalled discoveries of English writers by American houses. The writers discovered have all been writing for years but have been unknown, or almost entirely so, in

"Conrad was the Harper 'discovery'; Leonard Merrick was Mitchell Kennerley's, although Merrick, like Conrad, has writing for years. Doran's have been advertising Birmingham as a find. He has been writing as much as Conrad and Merrick. It was the same with Arnold Bennett, suddenly discovered by Dutton's. Bennett, hailed by them as new writer, flooded the market with books, which he had been writing for ever so long. Houghton Mifflin have just put on the market a discovery of this same type.

*The fact is the American publisher cannot do without the English author. a really well written book.

oetter. But when I look over the lists of the other firms I find that our books are as good, if not superior, to theirs.

"Here in America you get the sort of thing turned out by a Robert W. Ch."

It is announced that Karin Michaelis's "The Dangerous Age" is being dramatized by Louis Evan Shipman, who arranged "The Grain of Dust" and "The Crisis" for stage production. "I sometimes think the novels we turn

thing turned out by a Robert W. Chambers or a Harold MacGrath, novelists that are not novelists in any serious sense of the word; and you get a few writers like Robert Herrick. There are no writers who occupy a place between the extremes. The number of the miniature portraits which Charles Turrell is engaged in painting of Queen Mary and Princess Mary will be included in the book on Mr. Turrell's work which John Lane Company has in preparation for early publication. no writers who occupy a place between these two extremes. The number of serious writers like Herrick is small in-

After all. without previous training, what does a lawyer know about writing a novel? Just recently we pubished a story by a business man who onfessed that he had never before seen line of his in print. He has never written toom a story, not even a newspaper That's a fine preparation for the

task of writing a book, isn't it? Wealthy women, who have time hanging heavy on their hands, get the idea t it would be nice to put it over their friends that they have had a book pub-

better literary work of the Englishman. Purple Sage." The chief reason perhaps is that writing a book is taken more seriously there than here. An Englishman will be down and out and he'll write a novel. Under such there that literature is a vocation. A were kindly enough, and sometimes prepares himself for the work. Many of the former kind. Englishmen write novels not because they have to, but because they love to, and in consequence they do their work in a leisurely fashion that means excellence

in the result. Although the American publisher can not dispense with the English author he is noticeably independent of the Continental fictionist. When does one ever see an Anatole France or a Pierre Loti brought out in translation by an American firm? The French are prolific writers; but few of them are known in this country brough English versions. The fact is French and German translations do not 'Jorn Uhl.' a novel by Gustav Frenssen, in Germany had the unprecedented sale of 100,000 copies, failed here.

"Possibly the French novel fails here ecause the French outlook on life is so different from ours, that the French author does not give us the kind of story we want. A further reason, and one that holds true of the German translation as well, is that many people read such works in the

The R ussian translation is hardly more repular than the French and the Ger-They tried to puff Gorky, but he fell flat. Turgenicff is hardly known by the av erage reader. Tolstoy is known largely cause he was such a great man that he

such a great man that he sed over all obstacles."
he statement was made at Harper's t their specialty is English authors, ir policy to produce only works of a loss character, such as Flournoy's utilism and Psychology," by Conti-lai writers, and not to produce fiction them. Very occasionally they bring a volume by Anatole France or France, Coppee, but such stray translations. but such stray translations not affected the general character ir output. They remain interested science, the history, the philosophy Continent but not in its poetry,

or fiction.
ugh the American reader is felt sympathetic toward the imaginawork of the Continent, this firm a that such books as Prof. Flournoy's that such books as Prof. Flournoy's the University of psychology at the University Geneva, representative for Switzerd at the Congress of Psychology in a andeditor of the Archives 4: Psychology in the Archives 4: Psychology of Flournoy has to say whatever Prof. Flournoy has to say raing supernormal psychology, shyvics and psychical research comes saively to an increasing number of readers in this country who are inter-ested in telepathy, clairvoyance, ma-terialization and subconscious mind.

During the past year Harpers have issued seven novels by English authors

and their catalogues contain such names as Hardy. Conrad. Lucas Malet, Mrs. Warde, Hope, and Justin McCarthy. They have just completed their thin paper seven volume edition of Hardy's novels and have added a volume of selections to their set of Swinburne.

to their original twelve volume edition of poetical works, tragedies and lyries they have added the poet's critical writing on "The Age of Shakespeare," Three Plays of Shakespeare, "Three Plays of Shakespeare," Three Plays of Shakespeare, "Three Plays of Shakespeare," Three Plays of Shakespeare, "Three Duke of Gandia," a blank verse drama dealing with the Medici family.

Mr. Mr. Marsh of Macmillans said that their house published Frensen's "Klaus Heinrich Baas" because of the great popular author's "Jom Uhl." Klaus Heinrich Baas" was, however, only fairly successful. "We are bringing out, he stated, a six volume edition of Dostolevski's novels, because he is thought by many people to be the greatest of the Russian novelists, if not the greatest of all countries. It will be published simultaneously by our house here and Heinemann in London.

"We do very little with translations, even in serious works, although we should be glad to bring out the works of another Bergson. I do not think there is any increasing interest in translations. Indeed, thirty or forty years ago the translations. Indeed, thirty or forty years ago the translations, but the American lack of enthusiasm over foreign novels was due to a difference in outlook upon life. The German's peychot with the first publisher in thinking that the American lack of enthusiasm over foreign novels was due to a difference in outlook upon life. The German's peychot with the first publisher in thinking that the American lack of enthusiasm over foreign novels was due to a difference in outlook upon life. The German's peychot with the first publisher in thinking that the American lack of enthusiasm over foreign novels was due to a difference in outlook upon life. The German's peychot with the first publisher in thinking that the American leak of enthusiasm over foreign novels was due to a difference in outlook upon life. The German's peychot with the first publisher in thinking that the American leak of enthusiasm over foreign novels was due to a difference in outlo

THE MAKING OF BOOKS.

Harper & Brothers announce that they are sending to press this week for new printings four of their books: "Going Some," by Rex Beach; "May Iverson," by Elizabeth Jordan; "The King in Yellow," by Robert W. Chambers; "City Festivals," by Will Carleton.

Mrs. Edith Wharton, who contributes They write better over there. In London frequently to French periodicals, has put a publisher can pick up a well written "Ethan Frome" into French for the novel any time, his only trouble will be Revue de Paris, under the title of "Sous novel any time, his only trouble will be to get rid of it. Here all sorts of stuff pour into the publishing house, but out of the entire mass it is difficult to find a really well written book. French story for French readers.

April books published by Frederick A April books published by Prederick is small indeed.

It is curious the various kinds of people who try to write in America. A lawyer is run over by a trolley car. While the injuries to his leg are obliging him to scientific pedagogy, translated by her the injuries to his leg are obliging him to scientific pedagogy, translated by her the injuries to his leg are obliging him to scientific pedagogy, translated by her the injuries to his leg are obliging him to scientific pedagogy, translated by her the injuries to his leg are obliging him to scientific pedagogy, translated by her the injuries to his leg are obliging him to scientific pedagogy, translated by her the injuries to his leg are obliging him to scientific pedagogy. That feeling toward New York is another thing that Miss Ferber insists on hugging and his humanized natural history and confines himself to a simple and useful description of the common trees of eastern the injuries to his leg are obliging him to scientific pedagogy, translated by her the injuries to his leg are obliging him to scientific pedagogy. That feeling toward New York is another thing that Miss Ferber insists on hugging and his humanized natural history and confines himself to a simple and useful description of the common trees of eastern North America. The descriptions are scientific pedagogy translated by her America and Compact, the technical drawthe injuries to his leg are obliging him to scientific pedagogy, translated by her the injuries to his leg are obliging him to scientific pedagogy, translated by her the injuries to his leg are obliging him to scientific pedagogy, translated by her the injuries to his leg are obliging him to scientific pedagogy, translated by her the injuries to his leg are obliging him to scientific pedagogy, translated by her the injuries to his leg are obliging him to scientific pedagogy, translated by her the injuries to his leg are obliging him to scientific pedagogy, translated by her the injuries to his leg are obliging him to scientific pedagogy, translated by her the injuries to be the injuries to his leg are obliging him to scientific pedagogy, translated by her the injuries to his leg are obliging him to scientific pedagogy, translated by her the injuries to be have been appearing in the American Magazine and elsewhere, was published March 29, under the title of "Buttered Side Down.

> The Stokes announce that Prof. Fen-The Stokes announce that Frot. Figure ollosa's "Epochs of Chinese and Japanese Art," which was announced for publication this spring, has been postponed until fail, on account of extra illustration.

often that of other English speaking publics in the liking and disliking of novels. is a matter of extracts from business friends that they have had a book publics in the liking and dishking of novels.

And non-English speaking publics, while they accept our serious books, are not partial to our fiction as is evidenced by willing to pay fabulous sums of money the semi-annual order from a Japanese in order to induce some one to put their stuff in print. They will be women who know nothing about authorship, have no feeling for its art, no training. It is needless to say we head them off here.

"Yes, I rather think Oxford and Camitation of the control of t "Yes, I rather think Oxford and Cam-bridge have something to do with the bridge have something to do with the number of Zane Grey's "Riders of the

Lesson by Dean Swift.

Jonathan Swift, the Dean Swift so well out and he'll write a novel. Under such known to fame, dearly loved a joke, circumstances he takes pains to do it and constantly inflicted them on his well. There is a feeling among the men friends and servants. Sometimes they man will decide early in life that he is the reverse. In "Martha, Lady Giffard," going to be a novelist and he carefully Julia G. Longe gives an amusing example

English versions. The fact is deferment translations do not 'Marie Claire' is an exception. 'a novel by Gustav Frenssen, Journey. for it is certain that if you were

And he continued one all his

Chateaubriand's Tragedy.

From the Westminster Gazette Apropos of the Chateaubriand boom, M. Jules Claretie recalls in Le Temps the a hundred years since Shelley paid his story of the premiere of the great autromantic visit to Ireland and issued his thor's tragedy "Moise." Unable to secure its production in Paris, he had it litical and religious freedom. staged at Versailles. Too nervous to be He addressed a great meeting in Dub-present in the house on the occasion, he lin which was presided over by the Earl ent his valet with orders to return and of Fingall and at which Daniel O'Connell The servant duly arrived.
"Well?" asked Chateaubriand.

"Ah! M. le Vicomte! I amused myself.
spent a most delightful evening." "It was a success, then?"

"A success, M. le Vicomte? Of course it was a success! It was an immense The audience never stopped laughing from the beginning to the end

It had not occurred to the worthy valet

and was it never necessary to remind her to be more careful of her finger nails and grammar? After Puss in Boots had won wealth and a wife for his young master did not that gentleman often fume with chagrin because the neighbors perhaps refused to call on the lady of the former miller's son? It is a great risk to take with one's book

the subject of his troubles, and the neg- through. lected wife next door who journalizes) knows that a story the scene of which social Evil" made ten years ago by a ls not New York is merely junk. I do "committee of fifteen" is published by not know Fifth avenue from Hester G. P. Putnam's Sons. It is edited by street, because I've never seen it. It Prof. Edwin R. A. Seligman of Columbia has been said that from the latter to the University and is expanded to nearly A confession of this kind is not only good in the last ten years.

to stay here. And she visited Coney excellent and valuable. Island at midwinter, being probably the first writer to see it at a time when the beach was not covered with sleeping people from south of Fourteenth.

That Miss Ferber does unexpected little

turns in her correspondence as well as in her writing intended for publication is shown by a glance or two at some letters The judgment of American readers is written to her publishers, who of course correspondence. She was writing in regard to an offer from Herr J. Engelhorns Nachf, the German publisher,

slang translated into high sounding German. When I think of what they'll do Trübner and Company: E. P. Dutton and Comto the vernacular of Blackie, the sporting editor. I rise and prance and shout. so that the people in the flat downstairs hold their breath. And what is 'O'Hara' in German? And how do you pronounce Nachf? The f silent as in cheese?"

In another letter to her publishers Miss Ferber wrote:

"Don't say that I haven't a proper

were kindly enough, and sometimes quite to the reverse. In "Martha, Lady Giffard," Julia G. Longe gives an amusing example of the former kind.

Once when the dean was travelling in Ireland he found himself obliged to stay the night at a wayside inn. In the morning, when his servant brought him his boots, he saw that they had not been cleaned: he asked why.

"I thought, sir, as you were going to ride, that they would soon be dirty again." "Oh; said his master. "Very well; go and see to the horses." The man obeyed, and in the meantime the dean ordered the landlord not to give him any breakfast. When the man returned his master told him to bring the horses round. "But, sir," remonstrated the man, "But, sir," remonstrated the man, "But, sir," remonstrated the man, "Gh, that is no matter," replied the dean, cheerfully. "We will start on our journey, for it is certain that if you were to have your breakfast, you would soon hungry again." And he took him breakfastless away. We may suppose to have your breakfast, you would soon hungry again." And he took him breakfastless away. We may suppose that he never again neglected to clean his master's boots when on a journey.

Statue to Dumas.

From the London Globe.

Apropos of the status which is to be set up to Gen. Dumas in Paris, on the "Dame aux Camellas."

The General was, as is known, a multato, so a lady observed to Dumas fits, a Parls contemporary tells at characteristic story of the author of the "Dame aux Camellas."

The General was, as is known, a multato, so a lady observed to Dumas fits, "Your father, Monsleur Alexandre Dumas fits, a Parls contemporary tells and characteristic story of the author of the "Dame aux Camellas."

The General was, as is known, a man at the publishers. It's 34 in the shade and here I am lashed to my type-wirter. Not only that; one hand is wathed in antiseptic gauze and the other was a law to say that I haven't a proper wither. Not only that, one hand is wathed in antiseptic gauze and the other worker. The sam of the work of the sweet y

negro? And he continued one all his life."

For the most part the original committee of the monument have disappeared, among them Gen. Ferrier, Victorien Sardou and Alexandre Dumas fils. The model for the monument is completed and the work may be expected in position during the summer.

Sufficiently,"

Mufficiently,"

Sufficiently,"

All from the financial viewpoint. Writing publicly now for only two years, she has already had to refuse permission to a Broadway manager for the dramatization of her "Emma McChesney" stories and the other day she declined an important magazine's offer of a thousand dollars apiece for twelve short stories

Shelley's Visit to Ireland.

From the Westminster Gazette. It is interesting to note that it is just

report as to the reception of the piece. was the principal speaker. According to the servant duly arrived. the newspaper reports Shelley is said to have spoken for an hour with much force and studied moderation, but only about forty lines of the speech were published. His two pamphlets, copies of which are now exceedingly rare, were published during his stay in Dublin, the February and the second early in March.

The price was fivepence—they now fetch as many pounds—but hundreds of copies were distributed free by Shelley and that the test of success of a comedy is his girl wife. Harriet, who accompanied swinburne has considerable vogue and not equally applicable to a travedy.

Continued from Tenth Page.

ish Main" (George Routledge and Sons; E. P. Dutton and Company). The stories of Hawkins and Drake, of Cavendish, Sir Richard Grenville, Sir Humphrey Gilbert and the rest, told by themselves or eye witnesses of their deeds, are brought within reach of the general reader and are more exciting than any tales of ficti-tious adventure. If the series continues to provide real stories of adventure, such as are plentiful in the history of British

Two more little volumes are issued in the valuable series of "Temple Primers," published by J. M. Dent and Sons (E. P. Dutton and Company"). "Our Weather," by J. S. Fowler and William Marriott, is an admirably clear and sensible explanation of meteorology and of the instruments employed in the science. Mr. J. Basil Oldham's "The Renaissance," is a much needed and very well done sum mary of what the term means in every-direction. The author picks out the essential things that were evolved in the period, not only the revival of learning and the flowering of the arts, but the new impulse manifest in thought, in literature, in exploration and in political life. He explains his points clearly and does not comfuse them with irrelevant matters.

Samuel Beach Chester's "Anomalies of the English Law" (Little, Brown and Company) are not apparent. The faults he discovers are by no means new; in most cases they have been criticised children. These stories make no such severely by competent authorities; in promises. They stop just short of the parase of the old story writers and truthis little to show that the author com-'And so they lived.'

Most of Miss Ferber's story beginnings are as unusual as her preface. The first begins with the admission:

"Any one who has a summary and the story begins with the admission:

"Any one who has a summary and the story begins with the admission: "Any one who has ever written for for the anomalies he has found. To a the magazines (nobody could devise a lawyer his remarks must read much like more sweeping opening; it includes the the hasty observations of a tourist on ceman, who does a humorous article on the art or customs of a country he rushes

The reasons for the publication of Mr.

A new edition of the report on "The former is a ten year journey, from which double its former volume by an account gathered that they lie some miles apart. of what has been done about the matter

for the soul, but for the editor. It saves him the trouble of turning a page or two."

That feeling toward New York is another

Thompson Seton for once drops himself

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cation in England." Edwin A. Pratt. (E. P. Dutton and Company.)

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pany.)
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der and Stoughton; George H. Doran Company.)
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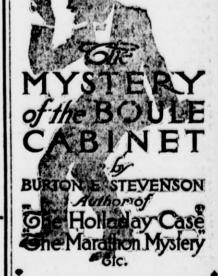
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